

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

Art Commission MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 23, 2008

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Arts Commission Members Present:

<input type="checkbox"/> Shelley Brittingham	<input type="checkbox"/> Laurie Haslund	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna DiFore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maureen Hoffmann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Yormark
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rochelle Flynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dane Johnson	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Justin	

Staff Present:

Debbie Zemke, Recreation Manager
Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor

Guests:

Randi Lacey, Past Commissioner and Past Burien Commissioner

Minutes

Meeting called to order.

August minutes accepted as amended. Kathy moved, Maureen 2nd.

AREA OF FOCUS REPORTS

Visual Arts

Arts Education -- Victoria reported on the Lantern Making workshop at Kids Day on Saturday, September 6th. Volunteers made over 200 lanterns at Kids Day with the children. She is hoping to work with Laurie Haslund during the year and work on music with area children. Debbie suggested talking to the Highline Symphonic Band for possible resources. One idea is to make musical instruments out of simple materials and have music reach low income children. Rochelle reported that Gregory Heights Elementary is still doing the Art Docent program that was originally developed and implemented by former Arts Commissioner Carol Bobanick and Victoria.

Public Art—

The Passage--Dane reported on the proposal to bring this temporary piece to Burien. At this time the \$10,000 has been approved through the City Council, but the project is on hold as liability issues are discussed between the City of Burien and Urban Partners. Dane explained that if we lose the December window for installation, it will be too expensive to bring the piece back to the Seattle area. Urban Partners is also donating \$6,000 if the piece is placed on Urban Partners land.

Town Square Public Art: Debbie reported that the bids came in favorably and the James Harrison sculpture will be built at 30 ft. The Arts Commission would like to formally thank Steve Clark for support and work in understanding how the taller sculpture would benefit the artwork piece.

Performing and Literary Arts

Literary Arts Programs—The literary summit or focus group will be Sept 30th, 7pm, at Page 2 Books, to discuss what can be created for the literary arts in Burien. If anyone knows of others to be invited please let Rochelle know.

All City Arts Events

4-Culture Site Specific—Rochelle reported on Laura Curry's performance of "Performance Memoirs" during the Arts-a-Glow event. The project got great community attention over the 30 hours the artists were installed in Karuna Yoga. This project was part one of three parts, the next two parts will be explored for 2009. The ability to have performance art at Burien events have been very positive and worth exploring in the future.

Special Projects

Arts and Culture Fund--Donna reported about the funding for Burien arts and culture organizations for 2009. Each organization presented for 10 minutes about their programs. Due to the education efforts put forth by Rochelle and Shelley last year and the support by the City Manager, the funding for the Arts and Culture Fund has grown to \$35,000, of which \$10,000 will be allocated to the Historical Society. Due to added funding the panel was able to fund all of the organizations at full or close to full funding. Donna let everyone know that the money will not be released immediately in 2009 to the organizations, but instead awarded after they have finished their programming. Maureen discussed the Burien Arts Association creation of a website and her concern about who owns the website and who owns the content. Concern was addressed that other web opportunities exist for area arts organization such as the City's arts Blog and the SOCO culture website. Burien 365 would not solicit monetary support for the site from area organizations, but would be looking for information from area organizations. They will be partnering with B-Town Blog. The BAA was able to apply with two grants as the City had created a separate category and then moved one application from one category to the other. Rochelle voiced concern that the City has allowed an Arts and Culture grant requirement to be broken by allowing an organization the ability to submit two applications. Concern is that by moving the BAA and Highline Historical Society's grant to Arts and Culture, a violation of the current grant criteria occurred.

Dane discussed that the City should be informed that they violated their own rules, and that the Arts Commissioners should not have responsibility for these issues.

The recommendation for the Highline Historical Society:

The City has a history of funding the HHS for unrestricted operational funding. HHS has asked that the \$10,000 be earmarked to fund an executive director for the last quarter of 2009. The grant review panel chose to not make a formal recommendation for the funding as the City was not asking for a recommendation from the Arts Commission, but that funding for HHS was already earmarked. Another concern was that the allocation of this funding for a staff member would be irresponsible if the funding was not to be extending into 2010 and beyond. The subcommittee did feel that the HHS request was a worthwhile cause.

Victoria also mentioned concern that the BAA asked for two projects, but since full funding is not being recommended for both requests, she felt the process was valid.

Recommendation for Burien Arts and Culture Fund:

Victoria Hall moved to accept the Burien Arts and Culture Fund committee's recommendations with the caveat for the Burien Arts Association's two grant requests. June Yormark seconded the motion, and the motion carried. A caveat was also recommended for the Highline Historical Society, based on the motion was seconded by June Yormark, and the motion carried.

Caveat for Burien Arts Association was that the current Arts & Culture grant policy requires that organization can only apply for one grant per year.

Caveat for Highline Historical Society was that their request for sustained support did not fit into the Arts & Culture grant guidelines. Also a concern was that the City was looking for a recommendation by the Commission for funding that has been pre-determined by the City, which the Commission was uncomfortable with and could not recommend.

Arts Summit—Debbie reported on planning of upcoming “art conversation” events which will follow-up last spring's Art Summit. Each event will focus on one topic and provide in-depth information and resource-sharing. Four sessions are being planned with 4-Culture, with the first conversation to be focused on collaboration and joint marketing. This could result in joint printed materials or website, etc. The 2nd conversation could be on facilities, with the third being fundraising and grant writing, and the fourth on a topic that is yet to be determined. Presenters would be both 4-Culture and outside speakers. One in fall, winter, spring, etc. Saturday, Nov 1, 8, or 15th are possibilities for the first meeting. Kathy brought up that the 1st is Day of the Dead and many arts groups may have conflicts. The first event would tentatively be scheduled from 11am-1pm and held here at the Community Center. More information is forthcoming.

Burien Aesthetic Master Plan-- Maureen has gotten an e-mail from City of Burien Economic Development staff member Janet Stallman about attending a BEDP meeting on October 10th, 7am, to discuss the Burien Aesthetic Master Plan. Maureen asked Commissioners for input for discussion at this meeting. Rochelle mentioned how pleased she is that the Commission has been asked for their input.

Celebrating Burien's Cultural Identity—No report today

STAFF REPORT

Arts-a-Glow—the Arts-a-Glow event took place on Saturday, September 6th and included an art walk, lantern parade, performances, and evening outdoor concerts. The event was collaboration between the City of Burien, Discover Burien, B-Town Blog, Burien Arts Association, 4-Culture and artist Denise Henrickson. The art walk ran from 11-6 and included music from local bands as well as local break dancers. Visitors had the opportunity to make lanterns from 4-8pm and then 200 people participated in the Lantern Parade at 8pm with the Yellow Hat Band. Also during the day, performance artists Laura Curry and Lori Dillon were “installed” in the windows of Karuna Yoga and passersbys could interact with them to create stories. The artists spent 30 hours in the windows and the installation was a big hit with the community. Trapeze artists from Cabiri also participated by setting up a movable trapeze rig and performing on the corner of Ambaum and 152nd. The evening ended with local Burien bands hosted by B-Town Blog performing on an outdoor stage in Old Burien.

Arts Blog—a Burien arts blog has been created and launched by Parks Director Michael Lafreniere. Input from Commissioners was that setting up an account on the blog made a bit cumbersome and discourage people from using it.

Streaming Arts Commission meetings—the possibility of streaming Arts Commission meetings on the City’s web site was proposed by Parks Director Michael Lafreniere. A vote was taken on this option and members choose to not to have meetings streamed at this time.

Neighborhood Matching Fund—Debbie reported that any Burien neighborhood can apply any time throughout the year for projects to enhance their communities. The City has also established a discretionary fund for City Council to use. Kathy asked if the Arts Commission would need to weigh in on any public art requests that came through the City through these types of special grants.

Other—Rochelle referenced the September 23 article in Highline Times about City Council discussion about space options for local arts organizations.

Meeting adjourned.